**PATENT** 

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S) : Mishra

TITLE : FLEXIBLE IMAGING MEMBER BELT

**SEAM SMOOTHING METHOD** 

APPLICATION NO. : 09/892,009

FILED : June 26, 2001

CONFIRMATION NO. : 2624

EXAMINER : Thukhanh T. Nguyen

ART UNIT : 1722

ALLOWED : June 22, 2006

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : 99021D-US-DIV

XERZ 2 00621-2

### RESPONSE TO STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Mail Stop Issue Fee

#### Dear Sir.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication as to the allowance of the present application.

However, applicant respectfully submits the Statements of Reasons for Allowance are, in and of themselves, inappropriate. It is noted that the reasons for allowance may be set forth in instances in which "... the Examiner believes that the record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear his or her reasons for allowing a claim or claims." (37 CFR §1.104(e)(2004)). In the present case, applicant believes the record as a whole does make the reasons for allowance clear and, therefore, no statement by the Examiner is necessary or warranted. Furthermore, the applicant does not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance.

Specifically, it has been indicated that the claims are allowed by importing interpretations into the claims in relation to the prior art that results in a potential imprecise and/or inaccurate understanding of the reasons. This places an unwarranted interpretation upon the claims. Such a characterization of the claims does not properly take into account applicant's claimed invention as reflected in the specification and the applicant's responses to the Examiner's office actions.

Therefore, while applicant believes the claims are allowable, applicant does not acquiesce that patentability resides in only the features, exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN, MINNICH & McKEE, LLP

July 6, 2006

Date

Richard M. Klein Reg. No. 33,000

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Date:	July 6, 2006	Total Pages:	5 (including cover sheet)
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### **COMMENTS**

## Attachments:

- Issue Fee Transmittal
- 2. "Fee Address" Indication Form
- Response to Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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